



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

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News Release

ICE COMMENTS ON THE CONVICTIONS OF TWO BAR OWNERS ON CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT SLAVERY, TRAFFICKING CHARGES *Two Mexican nationals pleaded guilty to trafficking and face up to 20 years in prison*

HOUSTON, Texas — In response to Friday's conviction of two local bar owners on human trafficking charges, announced today by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Texas, the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Houston office issued the following statement:

"Working in conjunction with our partners from the Houston Human Trafficking Rescue Alliance, ICE will vigorously seek to arrest and prosecute these modern day slave traffickers who exploit the victims illegally brought across our borders through force, fraud or coercion," said Robert Rutt, ICE Houston special agent-in-charge.

ICE encourages the public to report any suspicious activity, through its toll-free hotline at 1-866-DHS-2ICE. This hotline is staffed around the clock by investigators.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of four integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.